

**TRANSMITTAL  
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(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/557,672	
	Filing Date	April 25, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Michael K. BRAND	
	Art Unit	2128	
	Examiner Name	Thai Q. PHAN	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	12177/13401

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fee Transmittal Form</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final  <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Information Disclosure Statement</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Replacement Drawing(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other Enclosure(s)</b> (please identify below):  PTO Form 1449
<b>Remarks</b>		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm	KENYON & KENYON		
Signature			
Printed Name	William E. Curry		
Date	December 23, 2005	Reg. No.	43,572

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Michael K. BRAND *et al.*  
Group Art Unit: 2128  
Application No.: 09/557,672  
Examiner: Thai Q. PHAN  
Filed: April 25, 2000  
Docket No.: 12177/13401  
For: METHOD FOR ESTIMATING CHANGES IN PRODUCT  
LIFE FOR A REDESIGNED PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**Mail Stop – AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable. It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to deposit account 11-0600.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d), (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (d)

before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination. No certification or fee is required.

☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution.

☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

☐ c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached. 37 CFR §1.97(c)(2).

☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby request(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

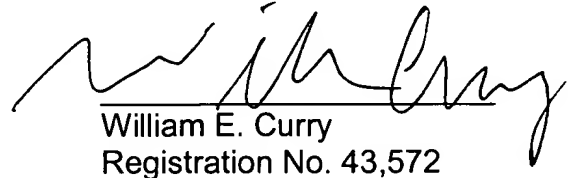
☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

☒ 4. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/900,777, filed July 6, 2001 and 09/900,779, filed July 6, 2001, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications are not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

  
William E. Curry  
Registration No. 43,572

Date: December 23, 2005

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/557,672
Filing Date	April 25, 2000
First Named Inventor	Michael K. BRAND
Art Unit	2128
Examiner Name	Thai Q. PHAN
Attorney Docket Number	12177/13401

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
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Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	1	Siegel, B. "Reliability and the Electronic Engineer," Intersil Corporation Application Note AN1104, March 24, 1998. <a href="http://www.intersil.com/data/an/an1104.pdf">http://www.intersil.com/data/an/an1104.pdf</a>	
	2	Weibull.com, "Arrhenius Relationship Introduction," Printed from the 4/23/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010423072851/http://weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_relationship_introduction.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010423072851/http://weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_relationship_introduction.htm</a>	
	3	Reliasoft's ALTA 1.0 On-Site Training Guide. © 1999 <a href="http://www.reliasoft.org/pubs/alta1_training.pdf">http://www.reliasoft.org/pubs/alta1_training.pdf</a>	
	4	Shih, C., Lambertson, R., et al., "Characterization and Modeling of a Highly Reliable Metal-to-Metal Antifuse for High-Performance and High-Density Field-Programmable Gate Arrays." 1997 IEEE Int'l Reliability Physics Symposium (IRPS), April 8, 1997	
	5	Technical Program of IRPS '97, pp. 1-2, April 8, 1997 <a href="http://www.irps.org/97-35th/tp97.html">http://www.irps.org/97-35th/tp97.html</a>	
	6	Internet Archive "Way Back Machine" search results for <a href="http://www.weibull.com/acceltestwebcontents.htm">http://www.weibull.com/acceltestwebcontents.htm</a>	
	7	Weibull.com, "Quantitative Accelerated Life Testing Data Analysis: An Overview of Basic Concepts" © 1992-2005 <a href="http://www.weibull.com/basics/accelerated.htm">http://www.weibull.com/basics/accelerated.htm</a> .	
	8	Weibull.com, "Accelerated Life Testing On_line Reference Contents," Printed from the 6/13/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010613024105/http://weibull.com/acceltestwebcontents.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010613024105/http://weibull.com/acceltestwebcontents.htm</a>	

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First Named Inventor	Michael K. BRAND
Art Unit	2128
Examiner Name	Thai Q. PHAN
Attorney Docket Number	12177/13401

### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	9	Weibull.com, "The Mean Life Function," Printed from the 4/30/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010430125329/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/the_mean_life_function.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010430125329/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/the_mean_life_function.htm</a>	
	10	Weibull.com, "Arrhenius Exponential," Printed from the 4/23/2001 archived version at Archive.org <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010423072436/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_exponential.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010423072436/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_exponential.htm</a>	
	11	Weibull.com, "Arrhenius Exponential Statistical Properties Summary," Printed from the 3/4/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010304055733/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_exponential_statistical_properties_.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010304055733/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/arrhenius_exponential_statistical_properties_.htm</a>	
	12	Weibull.com, "Stresses & Stress Levels," Printed from the 4/30/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010430192808/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/stresses_stress_levels.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010430192808/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/stresses_stress_levels.htm</a>	
	13	Weibull.com, "Accelerated Life Testing," Printed from the 3/3/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010303041409/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/acceleratead_life_testing.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010303041409/weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/acceleratead_life_testing.htm</a>	
	14	Weibull.com, "Types of Accelerated Tests," Printed from the 4/22/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org. <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20010422214528/www.weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/types_of_accelerated_tests.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20010422214528/www.weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/types_of_accelerated_tests.htm</a>	
	15	Weibull.com, "Quantitative Accelerated Life Tests," Printed from the 12/17/2001 archived version stored at Archive.org <a href="http://web.archive.org/web/20011217220235/www.weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/accelerated_life_tests.htm">http://web.archive.org/web/20011217220235/www.weibull.com/AccelTestWeb/accelerated_life_tests.htm</a>	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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